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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. :  
Cnfrm. No. :  
Applicant(s) : Raymond N. Burke et al.  
Filed :  
Title : IMPROVEMENTS RELATING TO HOSE  
  
TC/A.U. :  
Examiner :  
  
Docket No. : AAT-16095

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "A"**

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.